

**Washington, D.C.** - Congressman Rob Wittman called on Congress to increase its focus on reforming health care by reducing cost during today's GOP Health Care Solutions Group hearing.

Wittman, along with Republican Leader John Boehner, Republican Whip Eric Cantor, and Health Care Solutions Group Chairman Roy Blunt, Jr, listened to testimony from several witnesses, including Shona Robertson-Holmes, a Canadian patient who sought care in the United States after a six month wait for treatment of a life threatening illness.

"The current bill does not adequately address cost. We want good, workable solutions that get to the issue at hand," said Wittman in his opening remarks.

"Maintaining the integrity of the patient-provider relationship is also critical for whatever legislation comes out of this body," said Wittman

"The bill before us is not sustainable in the long term and does not adequately protect the patient- provider relationship," said Wittman.

Wittman has been an active member in the GOP Health Care Solutions Group, working to bring many ideas from his First District Healthcare Advisory Council before Congress. The Advisory Council is comprised of local patient advocates, physicians, nurses, students, insurance providers, hospitals, community health centers, and many other stakeholders involved in the health reform debate.

*Congressman Rob Wittman represents the First District of Virginia. He was elected to his first full term in November 2008 and serves on the Natural Resources Committee and the Armed*

*Services Committee, where he is the Ranking Member of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.*